Atrocities on Christian Missionaries

4633. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government received representations against the atrocities committed against the christian missionaries in India;

(b) if so, the action taken on the representation?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Representations as and when received are forwarded to the concerned State Govts. for taking appropriate action under the law, as 'Public Order' appears at Entry No. 1 under List II-State List of the 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India. It is the responsibility of the State Govts. to maintain 'Public Order' which is a State subject. The attention of the State Govts. is drawn from time to time for taking action against persons spreading ill-will, hatred or disharmony between members of different communities by issuing guidelines from time to time. The latest guidelines on communal harmony were issued by the Central Govt. to all the States/UTs on 22.10.1997 suggesting various measures for controlling the communal situation. The Central Govt. also assists the State Govts. by sharing the intelligence and providing Central Paramilitary Forces as and when necessary.

Smuggling of Uranium

4634. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a powerful international gang aided by Pakistan's Inter-Service Intelligence (ISI) agency and backed by a section of the Bihar Police and the Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) have been smuggling out highly radio active uranium from mines of Bihar;

(b) if so, the action taken so far to prevent the same; and

(c) whether any person was arrested in connection with the uranium smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Government has no information regarding smuggling of radio active uranium from mines of Bihar.

However, on June 30, 1998, P.S. Muzaffarpur (Bihar) recovered two pounds of material in sealed packets with the marking made in USA-Uranium-2 pounds, half kilo explosives in Horlicks bottle, 500 grams of Gunpowder, 3 hand made bombs, some detonators etc.

On examination of packets suspected to contain Uranium in the laboratory, it turned to be a type of resin used in plastic industries. 3 persons have been arrested under the Explosive Substance Act.

Coordination Committee to Tackle Naxalite Menace

4635. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a coordination Committee headed by Union Home Secretary has been set up to effectively tackle the Naxalite menace in the country;

(b) if so, the terms of reference and composition thereof;

(c) the areas affected by the menace; and

(d) the strategies proposed to combat the extremists?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The terms of reference of the Coordination Centre are as under:

(i) To review the status of the activities of left wing extremist groups in the four affected States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa;

(ii) to monitor the progress of the Plan of Action in respect of each State; and

(iii) to make recommendations, both on development and security aspects of the problem for their resolution.

The Coordination Centre is headed by the Union Home Secretary with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the four affected States, as Members.

(c) The districts primarily affected by Left Wing Extremism in these States are as follows:—

Andhra Pradesh: Warangal, Karimnagar, Nizamabad, Adilabad, Khammam, Medak and Nalgonda.

Madhya Pradesh: Bastar, Balaghat and Rajnandgaon.

Maharashtra: Gadchiroli, Chandrapur, and Bhandara.

Orissa: Malkangiri, Ganjam, Koraput, Gajapati and Rayagada.

(d) Central Government has taken adequate measures to help the States to fight the menace. These include holding of coordination meetings with the States concerned as well as with the various intelligence and investigating agencies of the Central Government to exchange information, share intelligence, plan strategy and take coordinated action. In certain special circumstances financial assistance has also been given to some of the affected States over and above the on-going allocations for modernisation of police and supply of weapons. Training of police personnel in anti-extremist operations has also been arranged. Central Government in consultation with the concerned States has drawn up an Action Plan in this regard which includes:

(i) Ensuring security of police stations, particularly those located in naxalite affected areas.

(ii) Having a common communication systems.

(iii) Setting up a Control Room in each State.

(iv) Joint patrolling.

(v) Launching of area Domination programme among the States.

(vi) Strengthening of intelligence network in affected areas in concerned states.

(vii) Training of police personnel in anti-extremist operations.

State Governments have been requested to take immediate steps to implement the above Action Plan. Action taken by the States is being reviewed from time to time.

Militancy in J&K

4636. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what specific steps have been taken in pursuance of the new policy, the so called pro-active policy, which take place of the earlier "reaction policy" to deal with militant activities in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) what positive results have followed the adoption of the new policy?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) With a view to tackling the militancy problem sponsored from across the border in Jammu and Kashmir, the Government have adopted a multi-pronged approach which includes inter-alia strengthening border management, neutralising plans of militants by proactive action against them, gearing up intelligence machinery, galvanising development